

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NATO 06468 061518Z
ACTION EUR-12

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: NATO, OCON
SUBJECT: FALL SCHEDULE FOR REGIONAL EXPERTS GROUPS

REF: (A) STATE 149500, (B) USNATO 5099

1. AT JULY 5 NATO POLADS MEETING, ALLIED REPS AGREED TO
SUBMIT FALL SCHEDULE FOR REGIONAL EXPERTS' MEETINGS TO
SILENCE PROCEDURE EFFECTIVE COB JULY 12 TO GIVE CAPITALS
TIME TO CONSIDER GREEK SUGGESTION TO HOLD AFRICAN EXPERTS'
MEETING OCTOBER 12-14 VICE OCTOBER 4-6 AS SHOWN IN REF B.
NO ALLIED REP OBJECTED TO GREEK SUGGESTION, THOUGH MOST
WERE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS.

2. PER REF A, WE URGED IS TO CIRCULATE ASAP PROPOSED OUT-
LINES FOR THIS FALL'S MEETINGS, AND CHAIRMAN DE BEAUSSE
SAID HE WOULD DO SO SOON. FRG REP SUGGESTED THAT INDIVIDUAL
ALLIES MIGHT CONCENTRATE ON SPECIFIC TOPICS RATHER THAN
TRY TO COVER AN ENTIRE REGION IN THEIR NATIONAL CONTRI-
BUTIONS. IN RESPONSE, DE BEAUSSE ENCOURAGED ALLIES TO LET
THEIR COLLEAGUES KNOW THROUGH THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE IF
THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO CONCENTRATE ON CERTAIN TOPICS. UK
REP SAID HE THOUGHT HIS EXPERTS WOULD BE WILLING TO FOCUS
PARTICULARLY ON RHODESIA IN PREPARING THEIR PAPER ON AFRICA
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AND ON INDIA AND PAKISTAN FOR THEIR PAPER ON SOUTH AND EAST
ASIA. THE ITALIAN REP SAID HIS EXPERTS WOULD BE ABLE TO
CONCENTRATE ON LIBYA FOR THE MEETING ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND
MAGHREB AND ON THE HORN OF AFRICA FOR THE AFRICAN EXPERTS
MEETING.

3. POLADS ALSO AGREED THAT MEDITERRANEAN WORKING GROUP

WOULD MEET NOVEMBER 2-4.

4. COMMENT: AS REGARDS THE FRG SUGGESTION, WE BELIEVE MOST ALLIES VALUE THE COMPREHENSIVE PAPERS THE US HAS IN THE PAST CIRCULATED IN CONNECTION WITH REGIONAL EXPERTS GROUP MEETINGS. CONTINUING TO PREPARE SUCH BROAD-GAUGED PAPERS WOULD OF COURSE NOT PREVENT US FROM HIGHLIGHTING SPECIFIC ISSUES OF CURRENT INTEREST. END COMMENT.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE BY OOB JULY 12 ON WHETHER WE CAN ACCEPT OCTOBER 12-14 FOR AFRICAN EXPERTS MEETING (THE SCHEDULE IN REF B OTHERWISE UNCHANGED). BENNETT

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